

Message Text

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42

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT:GUIDANCE FOR 97TH UNESCO EXBD: ITEM 3.4.1: PERM
DEL CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORK OF BOARD

REF: DOCUMENT 94 EX/2

1. IN ACCOMPANYING SEPTTEL CONTAINING GUIDANCE FOR ITEM
3.2.1, DEPT. HAS STRESSED NEED TO REFORM GENERAL CONFERENCE
BY RELIEVING IT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR DETAILED VETTING OF
BIENNIAL PROGRAM/BUDGET AND MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAM AND VESTING
THIS FUNCTION IN EXBD. IT WAS NOTED THAT BOARD'S ABILITY TO
DISCHARGE EFFECTIVELY THIS IMPORTANT, COMPLICATED AND TIME-
CONSUMING DUTY WOULD DEPEND AT LEAST IN PART ON ITS SUCCESS
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IN ENLISTING BACKSTOPPING HELP OF PERMDELS. DISCUSSION OF

SUBJECT ITEM OFFERS OPPORTUNITY FOR PERMDEL TO RING CHANGES ON THIS THEME, WHICH SEEMS TO US TO SPOTLIGHT MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT PERMDELS CAN MAKE TO WORK OF BOARD AND OF UNESCO, AT LEAST AT PRESENT TIME.

2. PARA 60 OF REFDOC PROVIDES EXCELLENT KEY FOR OPENING UP THIS AREA OF DISCUSSION. POINTS TO EMPHASIZE ARE FOLLOWING:

(A) FACT THAT NEARLY HALF OF UNESCO'S MEMBERS, ACCORDING TO REFDOC ANNEX, HAVE PERMDELS THAT ARE NOT ONLY EXCLUSIVELY OCCUPIED WITH UNESCO WORK BUT ARE HOUSED TOGETHER (IN RUE MIOLLIS BUILDING) CONSTITUTES MAJOR RESOURCE THAT WAYS MUST BE FOUND TO PROPERLY TAP.

(B) PROGRAM/BUDGET REVIEW WOULD PROVIDE EXCELLENT MEANS FOR PERMDELS TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATION OF BOARD'S WORK (PARA 49), ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY HAVE NEEDED TECHNICAL EXPERTISE (PARA 52).

(C) THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE NO REASON TO CHANGE PERMDELS' LEGAL STATUS (RE PARA 53), SINCE, AS POINTED OUT IN PARA 54, BOARD ALREADY HAS AUTHORITY TO SEEK ADVICE OF PERMDELS THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS OF BOARD. WHAT IS NEEDED IS NOT TO CHANGE THESE "WELL-BALANCED ARRANGEMENTS" BUT TO EXPAND THEM.

(D) AS PRACTICAL MATTER, WORKING GROUPS SUGGESTED IN PARA 56 MIGHT OFFER MOST EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONAL MEANS TO ACHIEVE THIS END. IN EFFECT, WORK PERFORMED BY PERMDELS WOULD BE IN NATURE OF "STAFF" WORK FOR BOARD AND WOULD HAVE NO LEGAL STATUS UNTIL IT RECEIVED BOARD'S APPROVAL OR, MORE LIKELY, WAS INCORPORATED IN THE ONGOING WORK OF THE BOARD.

3. IT IS OBVIOUSLY UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT PRESENT BOARD TO COME UP WITH FULL-BLOWN AGREED PROCEDURES, BUT WE DO HOPE THAT IDEA OF ASSOCIATING PERMDELS DIRECTLY AND FIRMLY WITH EXPANDED PROGRAMMING/BUDGET WORK OF BOARD WILL AT LEAST BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE AND THAT NEXT STEP IN UNCLASSIFIED

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ELABORATING THIS CONCEPT WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND SET IN MOTION. KISSINGER

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